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Herter Seen as Next Secretary of State

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WASHINGTON — Gov. Christian A. Herter has been placed in line by President Eisenhower to succeed John Foster Dulles as Secretary of State, it now is virtually certain after the Massachusetts governor had

spent a day shuttling back and forth between the White House and the State Dept.

Herbert Hoover Jr., present Undersecretary of State, is to retire to his California oil engineering business, and Gov. Herter is to succeed to Hoover's post as No. 2 man in the State Dept.

Sec. Dulles, since his operation for cancer of the intestine and his vacation at Key West, has been making plans to hand the direction of foreign affairs over to a successor.

White House Press Sec. Hagerty made it plain last Nov. 20 that Gov. Herter's "great talents and services would be used in some way and not be lost to the country." Plans for Gov. Herter's entry into the State Dept. date back before the election, it was learned here.

Gov. Herter had given notice to Allen W. Dulles, brother of State Sec. Dulles and head of the Central Intelligence Agency, that he would require his Washington home, which Allen Dulles had rented. Dulles has now moved to another residence and the Georgetown residence is available for Gov. Herter's use.

From the moment of Gov. Herter's arrival at noon yesterday until a late hour last night the Massachusetts governor, a one-time State Dept. attache in Berlin and a former member of the House Foreign Affairs committee, had been in successive conferences with high echelon White House and State Dept. people.

During the Middle East-Suez-Hungarian crisis, when Sec. Dulles was in Florida and Undersec. Hoover was in charge at the State Dept., President Eisenhower had taken complete charge of foreign policy. It is understood at that juncture he had asked Gov. Herter if he could possibly step in immediately, but had later decided not to press for an immediate decision while Gov. Herter was in the State.